

M A S

The breaking down an old frame of government, and erecting a new, seems like the cutting down an old oak and planting a young one: it is true, the grandson may enjoy the shade and the *maff*, but the planter, besides the pleasure of imagination, has no other benefit.

As a savage boar,
With forest *maff* and fat'ning marshes fed,
When once he fees himself in toils inclos'd,
Whets his tusks.

Wond'ring dolphins o'er the palace glide;
On leaves and *maff* of mighty oaks they brouze,
And their broad fins entangle in the boughs.

MA'STED, *adj.* [from *maff*.] Furnished with masts.
MASTER, *n. f.* [*maffter*, Dutch; *mafftre*, French; *magifter*, Latin.]

1. One who has servants; opposed to man or servant.
But now I was the lord
Of this fair mansion, *maffter* of my fervants,
Queen o'er myself; and even now, but now,
This house, these servants, and this fame myself
Are yours my lord.

Take up thy *maffter*.
My lord Bassanio gave his ring away
Unto the judge that begg'd it;
The boy, his clerk, begg'd mine;
And neither man nor *maffter* would take aught
But the two rings.

2. A director; a governor.
If thou be made the *maffter* of a feast, be among them as
one of the rest.
My friend, my genius, come along,
Thou *maffter* of the poet, and the song.

3. Owner; proprietor.
An orator, who had undertaken to make a panegyrick on
Alexander the Great, and who had employed the strongest
figures of his rhetoric in the praise of Bucephalus, would
do quite the contrary to that which was expected from him;
because it would be believed, that he rather took the horse
for his subject than the *maffter*.

4. A lord; a ruler.
Wildom and virtue are the proper qualifications in the
maffter of a house.
There Cæsar, grac'd with both Minerva's, shone,
Cæsar, the world's great *maffter*, and his own.

5. Chief; head.
The pride of royal blood, that checks my soul:
You know, alas! I was not born to kneel,
To sue for pity, and to own a *maffter*.

Chief *maffter*-gunner am I of this town,
Something I must do to procure me grace.
As a wife *maffter*-builder I have laid the foundation, and
another buildeth thereon.

The best lets are the heads got from the very tops of the
root; the next are the runners, which spread from the *maffter*
roots.

6. Possessor.
When I have thus made myself *maffter* of a hundred thou-
sand drachms, I shall naturally let myself on the foot of a
prince, and will demand the grand vizier's daughter in
marriage.

The duke of Savoy may make himself *maffter* of the French
dominions on the other side of the Rhone.
Commander of a trading ship.

An unhappy *maffter* is he that is made cunning by many
shipwrecks; a miserable merchant, that is neither rich nor
wise, but after some bankrupts.

A sailor's wife had chequins in her lap;
Her husband's to Aleppo gone, *maffter* o' th' Tyger.

8. One uncontrolled.
Let ev'ry man be *maffter* of his time
Till seven at night.
Great, and increasing; but by sea
He is an absolute *maffter*.

9. A compellation of respect.
Mafter doctor, you have brought those drugs.
Stand by, my *maffters*, bring him near the king.
Maffters play here, I will content your pains,
Something that's brief, and bid, good morrow, general.

10. A young gentleman.
If gaming does an aged fire entice,
Then my young *maffter* swiftly learns the vice.
Mafter lay with his bedchamber towards the south sun;
mills lodged in a garret, exposed to the north wind.

Where there are little *maffters* and misses in a house, they
are great impediments to the diversions of the servants; the
only remedy is to bribe them, that they may not tell tales.

11. One who teaches; a teacher.
Very few men are wise by their own counsel, or learned

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by their own teaching; for he that was only taught by him-
self had a fool to his *maffter*.
To the Jews join the Egyptians, the first *maffters* of learn-
ing.

Maffters and teachers should not raise difficulties to their schol-
ars; but smooth their way, and help them forwards.
12. A man eminently skilful in practice or science.
The great mocking *maffter* mock'd not then,
When he said, 'Truth was buried here below.
Spenser and Fairfax, great *maffters* of our language, saw
much farther into the beauties of our numbers than those who
followed.

A man must not only be able to judge of words and style,
but he must be a *maffter* of them too; he must perfectly un-
derstand his author's tongue, and absolutely command his
own.

He that does not pretend to paintings, is not touched at
the commendation of a *maffter* in that profession.
No care is taken to improve young men in their own lan-
guage, that they may thoroughly understand, and be *maffters*
of it.

13. A title of dignity in the universities; as, *maffter* of arts.
To *MA'STER*, *v. a.* [from the noun.]
1. To be a *maffter* to; to rule; to govern.
Ay, good faith,
And rather father thee, than *maffter* thee.

2. To conquer; to overpower; to subdue.
Thrice blest they that *maffter* to their blood,
To undergo such maiden pilgrimage.
The princes of Germany did not think him sent to com-
mand the empire, who was neither able to rule his insolent
subjects in England, nor *maffter* his rebellious people of Ire-
land.

Then comes some third party, that *maffters* both plaintiff
and defendant, and carries away the booty.
Honour burns in me, not so fiercely bright,
But pale as fires when *maffter*'d by the light.
Obstinacy and wilful neglects must be *maffter*'d, even
though it cost blows.

A man can no more justly make use of another's necessity,
than he that has more strength can seize upon a weaker,
maffter him to his obedience, and, with a dagger at his throat,
offer him death or slavery.

The reformation of an habitual finner is a work of time
and patience; evil customs must be *maffter*'d and subdued by
degrees.

3. To execute with skill.
I do not take myself to be so perfect in the transactions
and privileges of Bohemia, as to be fit to handle that part:
and I will not offer at that I cannot *maffter*.

MA'STERDOM, *n. f.* [from *maffter*.] Dominion; rule. Not in
use.

You shall put
This night's great business into my dispatch,
Which shall to all our nights and days to come
Give solely foreveign sway and *maffterdom*.

MASTER-HAND, *n. f.* The hand of a man eminently skilful.
Mulek resembles poetry, in each
Are nameless graces which no methods teach,
And which a *maffter-hand* alone can reach.

MASTER-JEST, *n. f.* Principal jest.
Who shall break the *maffter-jest*,
And what, and how, upon the rest.

MASTER-KEY, *n. f.* The key which opens many locks, of
which the subordinate keys open each only one.

This *maffter-key*
Frees every lock, and leads us to his person.
MASTER-LEAVER, *n. f.* One that leaves or deserts his *maffter*.
Oh Antony,
Nobler than my revolt is infamous,
Forgive me in thine own particular;
But let the world rank me in register
A *maffter-leaver*, and a fugitive.

MASTER-SINEW, *n. f.*
The *maffter-sinew* is a large sinew that furrounds the hough,
and divides it from the bone by a hollow place, where the
wind-galls are usually seated, which is the largest and most
visible sinew in a horse's body; this oftentimes is relaxed or
restrained.

MASTER-STRING, *n. f.* Principal string.
He touch'd me
Ev'n on the tend'rest point; the *maffter-string*
That makes most harmony or discord to me.
I own the glorious subject fires my breast.

MASTER-STROKE, *n. f.* Capital performance.
Ye skilful *maffters* of Machaon's race,
Who nature's mazy intricacies trace;
Tell how your search has here eluded been,
How oft amaz'd, and ravish'd you have been,
The conduct, prudence, and stupendous art,
And *maffter-strokes* in each mechanic part.

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MA'STERLESS, *adj.* [from *maffter*.]
1. Wanting a *maffter* or owner.
When all was past took up his forlorn weed,
His silver shield now idle *maffterless*.

The foul opinion
You had of her pure honour, gains, or loses,
Your sword or mine; or *maffterless* leaves both
To who shall find them.

2. Ungoverned; unbounded.
MA'STERLINESS, *n. f.* [from *maffterly*.] Eminent skill.
MA'STERLY, *adv.* With the skill of a *maffter*.
Thou dost speak *maffterly*.

Young though thou art,
I read a book; I think it very *maffterly* written.
MA'STERLY, *adj.* [from *maffter*.]
1. Suitable to a *maffter*; artful; skilful.

As for the warmth of fancy, the *maffterly* figures, and the
copiousness of imagination, he has exceeded all others.
That clearer strokes of *maffterly* design,
Of wife contrivance, and of judgment shine,
In all the parts of nature we assest,
Than in the brightest works of human art.

A man either discovers new beauties, or receives stronger
impressions from the *maffterly* strokes of a great author every
time he peruses him.
Imperious; with the sway of a *maffter*.
MA'STERPIECE, *n. f.* [*maffter* and *piece*.]

1. Capital performance; any thing done or made with extra-
ordinary skill.
This is the *maffterpiece*, and most excellent part, of the
work of reformation, and is worthy of his majesty's pains.

'Tis done; and 'twas my *maffterpiece*, to work
My safety, 'twixt two dangerous extremes:
Scylla and Charybdis.
Let those consider this who look upon it as a piece of art,
and the *maffterpiece* of conversation, to deceive, and make a
prey of a credulous and well-meaning honesty.

This wondrous *maffterpiece* I fain would see;
This fatal Helen, who can wars inspire.
The fifteenth is the *maffterpiece* of the whole metamor-
phoses.

In the first ages, when the great souls, and *maffterpieces* of
human nature, were produced, men shined by a noble sim-
plicity of behaviour.

2. Chief excellence.
Beating up of quarters was his *maffterpiece*.
Diffimulation was his *maffterpiece*; in which he so much
excelled, that men were not alhamed with being deceived
but twice by him.

MA'STERSHIP, *n. f.* [from *maffter*.]
1. Dominion; rule; power.
Superiority; pre-eminence.
For Python slain he Pythian games decreed,
Where noble youths for *mafftership* should strive,
To quito, to run, and steeds and chariots drive.

3. Chief work.
Two youths of royal blood, renown'd in fight,
The *mafftership* of heav'n in face and mind.

4. Skill; knowledge.
You were used
To say extremity was the trier of spirits;
That when the sea was calm all boats alike
Shew'd *mafftership* in floating.

5. A title of ironical respect.
How now, Signior Launce? what news with your *maffter*-
ship?
MASTER-TEETH, *n. f.* [*maffter* and *teeth*.] The principal teeth.
Some living creatures have their *maffter-teeth* indented one
within another like faws; as lions and dogs.

MASTERWORT, *n. f.* [*maffter*, and *wort*, Saxon.]
The *maffterwort* is a plant with a rose and umbellated
flower, consisting of several petals, which are sometimes
heart-shaped, and sometimes intire, ranged in a circle, and
resting on the empalement; which afterward becomes a fruit,
compesed of two seeds, which are plain, almost oval, gently
freaked and bordered, and generally casting their cover; to
these marks must be added, that their leaves are winged, and
pretty large: the root is used in medicine.

MAFFTERWORT is raised of seeds, or runners from the roots.
MAFFTERLESS, *n. f.* [*maffterless*, French, from *maffter*.]
1. Dominion; rule.
If divided by mountains, they will fight for the *maffterly*
of the passages of the tops, and for the towns that stand upon
the roots.

2. Superiority; pre-eminence.
If a man strive for *maffteries*, yet is he not crowned except
he thrive lawfully.
This is the case of those that will try *maffteries* with their
superiors, and bite that which is too hard.

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Good men I suppose to live in a state of mortification;
under a perpetual conflict with their bodily appetites, and
struggling to get the *maffterly* over them.

3. Skill.
Chief *maffterly* to dissect,
With long and tedious havock, fabled knights,
In battles feign'd.

To give sufficient sweetness, a *maffterly* in the language is
required: the poet must have a magazine of words, and have
the art to manage his few vowels to the best advantage.

4. Attainment of skill or power.
The learning and *maffterly* of a tongue being unpleasant in
itself, should not be cumbered with any other difficulties.

MA'STEFUL, *adj.* [from *maff*.] Abounding in mast, or fruit of
oak, beech or chefnut.
Some from seeds inclos'd on earth arise,
For thus the *maffful* chefnut mates the skies.

MASTICATION, *n. f.* [*maffticatio*, Lat.] The act of chewing.
In birds there is no *maffticatio*, or comminution of the
meat in the mouth; but in such as are not carnivorous it is
immediately swallowed into the crop or craw, and thence
transferred into the gizzard.

MASTICATION is a necessary preparation of solid alimnt, with-
out which there can be no good digestion.
MA'STICATORY, *n. f.* [*maffticatoire*, French.] A medicine to
be chewed only, not swallowed.

Remember *maffticatories* for the mouth.
Salivation and *maffticatories* evacuate considerably; saliva-
tion many pints of phlegm in a day, and very much by chew-
ing tobacco.

MA'STICH, *n. f.* [*maffstic*, French.]
1. A kind of gum gathered from trees of the same name in
Scia.
We may apply intercripts upon the temples of *maffstic*;
frontals may also be applied.

2. A kind of mortar or cement.
As for the small particles of brick and stone, the least
moistness would join them together, and turn them into a
kind of *maffstic*, which those insects could not divide.

MA'STICOT, *n. f.* [*maffum*, Latin.] See *MASSICOT*.
Grind your *maffstic* with a small quantity of saffron in gum
water.
MAFFSTIC is very light, because it is a very clear yellow,
and very near to white.

MA'STIFF, *n. f.* [*maffstives*, plural. [*maffstin*, French; *maffstino*,
Italian.] A dog of the largest size; a bandog; dogs kept
to watch the house.

As savage bull, whom two fierce *maffstives* bait,
When rancour doth with rage him once engore,
Forgets with wary ward them to await,
But with his dreadful horns drives afore.

When rank Theristes opens his *maffstiff* jaws,
We shall hear muficks, wit, and oracle.
When we knock at a farmer's door, the first answer shall
be his vigilant *maffstiff*.

Soon as Ulysses near th' enclosure drew,
With open mouths the furious *maffstives* flew.
Let the *maffstiffs* amuse themselves about a sheep's skin stuff-
ed with hay, provided it will keep them from worrying the
flock.

MA'STLESS, *adj.* [from *maff*.] Bearing no mast.
Her shining hair, uncomb'd, was loosely spread,
A crown of *maffstless* oak adorn'd her head.

MA'STLIN, *n. f.* [from *maffster*, French, to mingle, or rather
corrupted from *maffcellane*.] Mixed corn; as, wheat and rye.
The other for one lofe hath twaine
Of *maffstin*, of rie and of wheat.

MAT, *n. f.* [*maffce*, Saxon; *matte*, German; *matta*, Lat.]
A texture of fedge, flags, or rushes.
The women and children in the west of Cornwall make
mats of a small and fine kind of bents there growing, which
serve to cover floors and walls.

In the worst inn's worst room, with *mat* half hung,
The floors of plaiter, and the walls of dung.
TO MAT, *v. a.* [from the noun.]
1. To cover with mats.
Keep the doors and windows of your conservatories well
matted, and guarded from the piercing air.

2. To twilt together; to join like a mat.
I on a fountain light,
Whole brim with pinks was platted;
The banks with daffadillies dight,
With grals like sleeve was *matted*.

Sometimes beneath an ancient oak,
Or on the *matted* grafs he lies;
No god of sleep he did invoke,
The stream that o'er the pebbles flies,
With gentle slumber crowns his eyes.

Dryden.
He